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SUBJECT: SINGAPORE WELCOMES NEW IRAN INITIATIVE

REF: A. SINGAPORE 1795

¶B. STATE 87682

¶C. STATE 89325

Senior Minister Goh on Thursday, June 1, expressed Singapore's support for the United States' offer to hold direct talks with Iran if it suspends its nuclear enrichment program in his meeting with Vice President Cheney. Tan Yee Woan, Director of the International Organisations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, contacted the Economic/Political Counselor on June 5 to highlight the press coverage of Senior Minister (SM) Goh's statement. Local press has followed the SM's visit closely, and the SM's spokesperson clearly ensured that it widely covered his statement of support for the U.S. initiative.

STANTON